

[21st October 1927]

PRESENT—cont.

Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. O.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., Mr. T. R.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.

Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Kallikota.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Medical

Improvements to the Government Caste and Gosha Hospital, Triplicane.

* 758 Q.—MR. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR: With reference to the answers given to supplemental questions to original question No. 536 asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 25th March 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(a) to furnish a statement of the works in the hands of the Consulting Architect when the Government had called for a complete estimate of the cost of the whole scheme of improvements to the Hospital; and

(b) to state—

(1) when the Memo. was issued to the Consulting Architect for the preparation of the estimate;

(2) what was the order of the priority in which this urgent work was placed;

(3) by whom the orders of urgency is determined, whether it is by the Minister or the Consulting Architect;

(4) what time is generally allowed by the Government for the preparation of estimates for a scheme of such magnitude;

(5) whether the Government keep a diligent watch over the progress made in the preparation of estimates of such urgent schemes;

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(6) whether periodical progress reports are submitted to Government, and if so, to which Secretary and on what dates ;

(7) whether the progress reports of such works have been submitted to Government in 1925, 1926 and 1927, and if so, on what dates ;

(8) what orders were passed on each occasion on such reports especially in regard to the delay in the preparation of the estimates for such urgent works ;

(9) on what dates the present Minister, his predecessor and the Surgeon-General inspected the Caste and Gosha Hospital, Triplicane, and other hospitals in the City after the medical administration had passed into the hands of the Ministry, and what remarks each of them entered in the Visitors' books kept in the hospitals in regard to the urgent needs of each institution ;

(10) whether the present Minister had drawn the attention of the Surgeon-General in regard to the undesirable location of the labour room in the Gosha Hospital, and if so, when and what action had been taken by the Surgeon-General in this regard and what further action had been taken by the Public Works Department in regard to the acceleration of the preparation of the estimates for the improvement of the Victoria Hospital ;

(11) whether it is a fact that out-patients crowd into the hospital verandas and stroll about for want of a proper waiting room ; and

(12) whether this has been brought to the notice of the Surgeon-General or the Minister at any time by a petition from the public or by the officer in charge of the institution ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) (1) The Chief Engineer was asked for an approximate estimate on 10th January 1927.

(2) & (3) No priority list is maintained.

(4) Government do not specify times in such cases.

(5) No.

(6) No.

(7) No.

(8) None.

(9) A statement ^a is laid on the table. The Surgeon-General inspects all hospitals once a year and also on other occasions when necessary. He does not generally make any remarks in the Visitors' books but takes action separately on any points calling for notice.

(10) The Surgeon-General was asked in May last whether it was possible to arrange more suitable accommodation for the labour room temporarily, pending the construction of a new labour room, which is included in the Hospital Improvement scheme. The Surgeon-General replied that it was not possible to find more suitable accommodation for the labour room in the existing buildings. The question was accordingly dropped. The Chief Engineer has been asked to expedite the preparation of the estimates.

(11) Yes.

(12) Yes.